

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 HEW-08 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 SS-15 L-03 H-02 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 RSR-01 /179 W

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R 111918 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7943

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1784

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL

SUBJ: UNICEF PROGRAM COMMITTEE-- INDOCHINA

1. SUMMARY. THE INDOCHINA PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN E/ICEF/P/L.1592 WAS APPROVED AS PRESENTED. IN ADDITION TO APPROVING THE PROGRAM THE COMITE APPROVED A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN RECOMMENDING THAT UNICEF GIVE ASSISTANCE TO ALL CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED UNICEF PROCEDURES. END SUMMARY.

2. MARTIN SANDBERG WHO HEADS THE INDOCHINA PROJECT INTRODUCED THIS ITEM BY MAKING STATEMENT ABOUT THE PROPOSAL. PORTIONS OF THE STATEMENT ARE QUOTED BELOW.

" THERE MAY BE SPECIAL CHILDREN'S NEEDS ARISING FROM THE RETURN OF FAMILIES TO VILLAGES THAT HAVE BEEN DESTROYED-- FROM THE NEED TO RESOTRE HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES DAMGED BY THE WAR-- AND FROM THE NEED TO UNDERTAKE SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM THEIR FAMILIES, HAVE BEEN WOUNDED OR OTHERWISE PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED.

"... AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, BEGIN BRACKETS UNICEF HAS END BRACKETS ASSISTED A NUMBER OF PROJECTS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PARTS OF THE INDOCHINA PENINSULA, SPECIFICALLY IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM, IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC AND IN LAOS. THE PROPOSALS FOR CONTIN

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UING ASSISTANCE THAT WERE RECEIVED THROUGH AND FROM OUR FIELD OFFI-

CES, AND ARE REFERRED TO IN PARA 7 OF THE DOC, WERE LARGELY DEVELOPED AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR. SINCE THAT TIME, THE START OF MUCH MORE INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE POSSIBLE AND HAS BEGUN, WHICH WE EXPECT MAY LEAD NOT ONLY TO A FURTHER EXPANSION OF THE WORK IN THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, NUTRITION AND FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES WHICH WE ASSIST IN THOSE COUNTRIES, BUT ALSO TO IDENTIFICATION BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF FURTHER PRIORITIES OF CHILDREN'S NEEDS, AND OF SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES THAT CAN BE DEVELOPED TO MEET THESE NEEDS, AS CONDITIONS IN THE VARIOUS AREAS PERMIT. WE ARE MAKING ADDITIONAL STAFF AVAILABLE TO HELP AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCESS, SO THAT BROADER PROPOSALS CAN BE DEVELOPED AND MUTUALLY AGREED TO AS RAPIDLY AS IN POSSIBLE. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS WEEK TWO OFFICERS ARE MOVING INTO THE AREA TO ASSIST IN PLANNING WORK ON THE GROUND, AND STEPS ARE NOW ALSO BEING TAKEN TO EXPAND OUR FIELD ESTABLISHMENT ON THE PENINSULA SO AS TO STRENGTHEN DAY-TO-DAY COOPERATION WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN THE THREE COUNTRIES I HAVE REFERRED TO.

"OF EQUAL CONCERN TO US ARE THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN OTHER PARTS OF THE PENINSULA. TO SEEK A BASIS FOR A COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO MEET THESE NEEDS, AND TO OFFER SUCH COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, UNICEF STAFF MADE THE CONTACTS IN PARIS-- AS WELL AS IN STOCKHOLM-- THAT ARE REFERRED TO IN THE PAPER BEFORE YOU, AND WE HAVE PRESENTED THE AIDE- MEMOIRES AS WELL AS THE FULL EXPLANATORY INFORMATION ALSO REFERRED TO IN THE PAPER. AT THE PRESENT POINT OF TIME, I CAN ONLY RE-AFFIRM AND UPDATE THE INFORMATION GIVEN TO THE BOARD BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT THE BEGINNING OF LAST WEEK, BY CONFIRMING THAT NO REPLIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AS OF TODAY. THERE IS, OF COURSE, AN ELEMENT OF TIME TO BE CONSIDERED. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE CASE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS MADE THROUGH THE DELEGATION IN PARIS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM, WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT THESE WERE TRANSMITTED BY POUCH TO HANOI SOME THREE OR FOUR WEEKS AGO."

3. FOLLOWING THIS PRESENTATION, THE CHAIRMAN READ A STATEMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT INTER ALIA, WOULD HAVE TAKEN A DECISION " THAT ASSISTANCE TO THE CHILDREN OF THIS REGION AFTER THE ERADICATION OF THE CONFLICT MUST BE STARTED IMMEDIATELY AND EFFECTIVELY."

4. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INTERVENED THAT THIS STATEMENT WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO HIM SINCE NO REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE NEED

TO FOLLOW USUAL UNICEF PROCEDURES WHICH REQUIRE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPERVISION OF ASSISTANCE. THE STATEMENT WAS REDRAFTED, TO DELETE REFERENCE TO A " DECISION" BY THE BOARD AND TO REMOVE ANY AMBIGUITY IN THE ORIGINAL TEXT. THE FOLLOWING TEXT, WITH MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES, WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS:

" A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS WISH TO ENDORSE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONCERNING ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AND MOTHERS OF COUNTRIES OF THE INDOCHINA PENINSULA AS FOLLOWS:

"1. ASSISTANCE TO THE CHILDREN OF THIS REGION AFTER THE ERADICATION OF THE CONFLICT SHOULD START AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND EFFECTIVELY.

"2. ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ALL CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED UNICEF PROCEDURES. THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE SHOULD CORRESPOND TO THE EXTENT OF NEEDS OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

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"3. WHILE GIVING ASSISTANCE, UNICEF MAY USE THE INT'L INSTITUTIONS OF THE RED CROSS AS ONE MEANS OF CHANNELLING AID TO CHILDREN IN INDOCHINA.

" I THEREFORE WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS BE INCLUDED IN THE EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT."
THE STATEMENT WAS ACCEPTED.

5. THE SWEDISH DEL NOTED THAT THE RECOMMENDATION DID NOT ADD OR DETRACT FROM THE DECISION OF THR PROGRAM COMITE IN APPROVING THE PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED IN DOCUMENT E/ ICEF/ P/ L.1592.

6. THE ALGERIAN DEL COMPLAINED THAT THE PROPOSAL DID NOT SHOW HOW THE \$3 MILLION WAS TO BE DISTRIBUTED WITHIN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IF UNICEF REALLY DOES PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN, NO MATTER WHAT THE BELIEFS OF THEIR PARENTS, THEN ASSISTANCE MUST BE PROVIDED DIRECTLY, NOT PROVIDED THROUGH CHANNELS (I. E. , RED CROSS). HE SAID THAT UNICEF AND THE PARTIES CONCERNED SHOULD NEGOTIATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE AID BE GIVEN QUICKLY

AND NOT WHEN THE WAR IS ERADICATED. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE BOARD GIVE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR A BROAD MANDATE TO CONDUCT THIS PROGRAM. THE EXECUTIVE DORECTOR RESPONDED TO COMMENTS BY FIRST UNCLASSIFIED

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SAYING THAT HE AGREED WITH THE SWEDISH DEL THAT THE STATEMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS MEAN LITTLE SINCE UNICEF HAD ALREADY STARTED ASSISTANCE IN THE AREA. HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT THE TERM ERADICATION MEANT. IN RESPONSE TO THE ALGERIANS MR. LABOUISSSE SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW THE BREAKDOWN OF ASSISTANCE WOULD BE. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE AS EQUITABLE AS POSSIBLE. REGARDING CHANNELS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF AID, HE FELT THAT IT COULD BE THE RED CROSS OR A GOVERNMENT MIGHT DESIGNATE A VOLUNTARY AGENCY IF THE COUNTRY HAS SUCH AGENCIES.

7. THE CHAIRMAN STATED THAT THE REAL ISSUE WAS TO ASSIST MOTHERS AND CHILDREN. HE SAID THE BOARD WISHED UNICEF TO USE THE MONEY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND GIVE ASSISTANCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE STATEMENT WAS ACCEPTED WITH MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES.

8. SINCE THE INDOCHINA PROPOSAL IMPLIES THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MIGHT MAKE SPECIAL APPEALS WITHOUT THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE SYG, THE US REP MADE CLEAR THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE USG THAT UNICEF NOT MAKE AN INDEPENDENT APPEAL WITHOUT ENDORSEMENT BY THE SYG:

" MR. CHAIRMAN, WE SUPPORTED THE EXPENDITURE OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNICEF PAID DIRECTLY OR CHANNELLED THROUGH APPEALS LAUNCHED BY THE UN. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT IF UNICEF CONSIDERED APPEALS, SUCH APPEALS WOULD BE ENDORSED BY THE SYG AS BEING CONSISTENT WITH THE OVERALL PLANS OF THE UN IN INDOCHINA. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN."

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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